

# UNIT 3 Ancient Greece and Rome

3000 B.C. to 500 A.D.

1200–800 B.C.  
Early Greek civilizations  
are destroyed.

3000 B.C.

3000 B.C.  
Minoan civilization  
emerges in Crete.

1500 B.C.

1600 B.C.  
Mycenaean civilization  
develops in Greece.

1000 B.C.

## Civilizations of Ancient Greece

The Minoans and the Mycenaeans developed civilizations in the region of present-day Greece. Their achievements became the foundation of Greek culture.

- The Minoans were known as great artisans. Legends of their cleverness became part of Greek myths.
- The Mycenaeans were fierce warriors. Through conquest, they spread their culture around the Aegean Sea.
- The Minoans and the Mycenaeans were expert sailors. Both civilizations became wealthy from sea trade.
- Invasions destroyed the civilizations surrounding the Aegean Sea.

Find Crete on maps B and D.

1 2000 B.C. Minoans  
become sea traders.

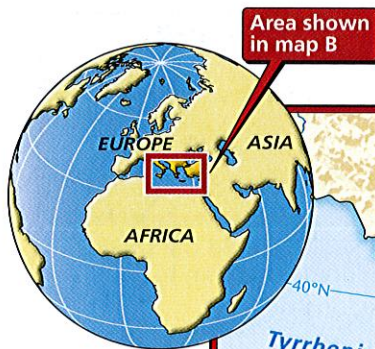
2 1600 B.C. Knossos  
becomes capital.



**Minoan Crete**  
3000–1450 B.C.

Palace city  
0 25 50 miles  
0 25 50 kilometers

**A** Large buildings called palaces were used for religious rituals and storing food. The cities that developed around these places were known as palace cities.



Area shown  
in map B

**Mycenaean Greece**  
2000–1200 B.C.

- Mycenaean civilization
- Minoan civilization until 1450 B.C.
- Mycenaean migration, 2000 B.C.
- Mycenaean conquest, 1450 B.C.
- Sea Peoples invasion, 1200 B.C.
- ★ Capital
- Palace city

GREECE Culture region

0 100 200 miles  
0 100 200 kilometers



**B** The Mycenaeans ruled the most powerful kingdom in the Greek culture region. Through conquest, they expanded into Minoan Crete. After conquering the Minoans, the Mycenaeans adopted Minoan culture.



**509–508 B.C.**  
Rome becomes  
a republic.  
Democracy begins  
in Athens.

**399 B.C.**  
Socrates  
dies.

**336–323 B.C.**  
Alexander the Great  
conquers the  
Persian Empire.

**27 B.C.**  
Rome becomes  
an empire.

**117 A.D.**  
Roman Empire reaches  
its greatest extent.

**476 A.D.**  
Western  
Roman  
Empire falls.

**500 B.C.**

**B.C. < > A.D.**

**500**

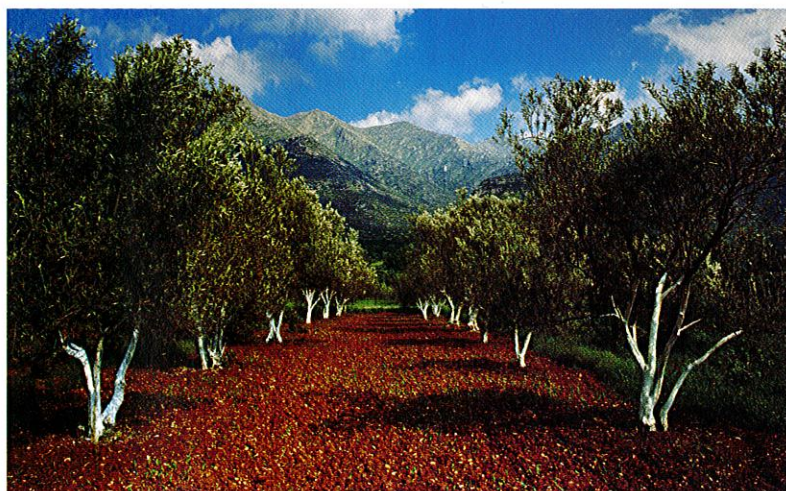
**431 B.C.**  
Athens and Sparta  
go to war.

**146 B.C.**  
Romans conquer Greeks.

**392 A.D.**  
Christianity becomes  
the official religion of  
the Roman Empire.

## How did you get that?

Through **trade**, people can exchange goods they have for goods they need or want. At first, people exchanged goods directly. After money was invented, people usually sold goods and used money to buy what they needed.

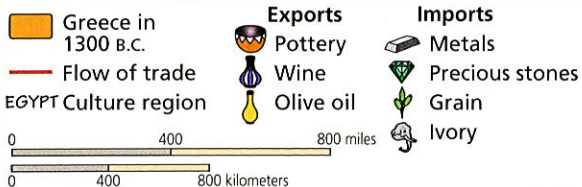


**C** Olive trees, shown in this photo, grow well in the rocky soil of Greece. Olive oil produced by early Greeks was a valuable trade good. Today, olives are still a major crop in Greece.



## Ancient Greece and Trade

**2000–1200 B.C.**



**D** Sea trade connected the Greeks with other cultures throughout the Mediterranean world. From which regions did the Greeks import grain?